

# **“Planning for North Carolina’s Future: Ask the Climate Question”**

## **Climate Change Adaptation Workshop**

### **Preliminary Agenda (as of 02/12/10)**

#### **Hosted by the N.C. Interagency Leadership Team**

#### **DAY 1 - MARCH 2, 2010**

##### **8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Registration**

##### **9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Opening Session**

**Welcome** – Moderator Linda Rimer, US EPA Region 4 Liaison to North Carolina

**Introduction** – Bill Friday, President Emeritus, University of North Carolina

##### **Why Focus on Adaptation? Adaptation vs. Mitigation**

John Sullivan, Federal Highway Administration North Carolina Division Administrator

- Most climate change conferences across the country have focused on mitigation, which is reducing greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency, energy conservation and renewable fuels. This conference is unique, because the focus is on climate change adaptation. We will look at how North Carolina can reduce its vulnerability and enhance its resilience to the changes that are already occurring in the climate and which are projected to increase in the future.

##### **Why is Climate Change an Important Issue for North Carolina?**

Leaders of N.C. Departments: Sec. Dee Freeman (Environment and Natural Resources), Sec. Eugene A. Conti, Jr. (Transportation), Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll (Commerce), Sec. Linda Carlisle (Cultural Resources) and Commissioner Wayne Goodwin (Insurance)

- Leaders of N.C. Departments of Environment and Natural Resources, Transportation, Commerce, Cultural Resources and Insurance will each provide their agency’s perspective on why climate change is an important issue for our state. Climate change is going to influence all of our various collective responsibilities, including local governments and elected officials. Together we can integrate the consideration of climate into everyday decisions, by “Asking the Climate Question.”

##### **10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States**

Tom Karl, Nobel Prize-winning member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and one of the Editors-in-Chief of the report: *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*; Director, NOAA’s National Climatic Data Center; Transition Director, NOAA Climate Services; and Past President, American Meteorological Society

- Based on the book, *Global Climate Change Impact in U.S.*, published by U.S. Global Change Research Program, Tom Karl will make the projected impacts relevant to North Carolina. The National Environmental Modeling & Analysis Center will provide copies to workshop participants.

##### **11:00 - 11:30 a.m. Important Climate-Related Issues for Communities**

Scott Shuford, Onslow County Planning & Development Director

- Based on the new book co-authored by Scott Shuford, *Planning for a New Energy and Climate Future*, being published by the American Planning Association. Scott will take the topic of climate and explain how the impacts can be addressed at the local level. The National Environmental Modeling & Analysis Center will provide copies to workshop participants.

**11:50 - 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Plenary: What Leading States Are Doing to Address Impacts of Climate Change**

Zoe Johnson, Office for a Sustainable Future, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

- Zoe will share lessons learned in developing the Maryland Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

**1:20 – 5:00 p.m. Planning in a Changing Climate: Projected Impacts and Adaptive Responses**

- Experts will demonstrate the projected impacts to **key sectors**. All speakers will emphasize the need for comprehensive integrated planning. Nina Szlosberg-Landis (Conservation Council of North Carolina and N.C. Transportation Board), moderator, will introduce speakers and synthesize the message.
- **Water** - Nancy Beller-Simms, Program Director, Sectoral Applications Research Program, NOAA Climate Program Office
- **Transportation & Infrastructure** - Gloria Shepherd, Associate Administrator for Planning, Environment, and Realty, US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration
- **Energy** - Dave McNelis, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, Center for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economic Development
- **Ecosystems (nature, agriculture, forestry, and people)** - Sam Pearsall, Southeast Land, Water and Wildlife Program Manager, Environmental Defense Fund
- **Human Health** - Howard Frumkin, M.D., Dr.P.H., Special Assistant to the Director for Climate Change and Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- **Society** - Chris Emrich, University of South Carolina, Institute of Hazard Research

**DAY 2 - MARCH 3, 2010**

**Welcome – Linda Rimer, Moderator**

**8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Importance of Communication, Education and Engagement in Developing Plans**

Heidi Cullen, Climate Central

- Heidi will provide guidance on communication with the public about climate change. Once we have a plan, how do we get people to buy into the changes that will be required? How can we encourage a coordinated climate change response in the state of North Carolina?

**8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Developing Climate Change Adaptation Strategies**

Rob Verchick, EPA Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy

- The White House Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have initiated a one-year interagency review process to develop Federal recommendations for adapting to climate change impacts both domestically and internationally. As one of the EPA representatives to this Climate Change Adaptation Task Force, Rob will describe the goals and progress to date of this important Task Force.
- On a more local level, Rob will also explain how risk management tools can help communities increase their resilience in the face of climate change, and the economic and risk assessment considerations that will be needed in developing plans for climate-resilient communities.

**9:15 - 9:45 a.m. Vulnerability Analysis and Scenario-Based Planning**

Kevin Moody, Federal Highways Administration

- Kevin will give an overview of the Climate Change Imperative toolkit, which uses scenario-based planning, vulnerability analysis, adaptive capacity evaluations and regional climate projections.

**9:45 - 10:15 a.m. Break**

**10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Ask the Climate Question: Adapting to Climate Change Impacts in Urban Regions**

Josh Foster, Center for Clean Air Policy

- Josh will explain the approach developed by The Urban Leaders Program that cities are using to incorporate a climate dimension into daily management and planning activities.

**10:45 - 11:30 a.m. Understanding Regional Variations in Potential Impact of Climate Change: Mountains, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain**

Staff at the Renaissance Computing Institutes based at University of North Carolina-Asheville, Chapel Hill and Charlotte and East Carolina University

- Presentations will show how the projected climate threats are expected to have varying impacts on our coast, in the piedmont and in the mountains. Communities will need to plan adaptation strategies accordingly.

**11:30 – 11:50 a.m. Relocate to dining area in Room 2**

**11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Plenary: Tools and Resources for Planners**

Reid Ewing, Smart Growth Planning expert, University of Utah

- Based on his book, *Growing Cooler, the Evidence on Urban Development and Climate Change*, Reid will discuss emerging trends in planning, development and climate change.

Jim Fox, Director, Renaissance Computing Institute at UNC Asheville

- Jim will provide an overview of the purpose, goals and format of breakout sessions.

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Regional Breakout Sessions**

Staff at the Renaissance Computing Institutes based at University of North Carolina-Asheville, Chapel Hill and Charlotte and East Carolina University

- Imagine the future with the impacts of climate change in your region. How can you ask the climate question in your work? How can you use the demonstrated tools to address these issues in your community?

**3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Break**

**3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Plenary Session: What Have We Discovered in the Breakout Sessions?**

Staff at the Renaissance Computing Institutes based at University of North Carolina-Asheville, Chapel Hill and Charlotte and East Carolina University

- Team leaders will summarize the breakout sessions. Common themes and fresh ideas will be shared. We will try to identify what communities need to support climate change adaptation.

**4:30 – 5:00 p.m. Closing message: Applying What We Have Learned**

Sec. Dee Freeman, N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Integrating science and policy into state and local planning and action in North Carolina